

Secure Medicine Return in Washington State: A Producer Responsibility Approach

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Product Stewardship Institute
Pharmaceuticals Update
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PH:ARM Team

Pharmaceuticals from Households: A Return Mechanism

•HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

- Group Health Cooperative



GroupHealth

•BUSINESSES

- Bartell Drugs
- Boarding/assisted living homes



•NON-PROFIT AGENCIES

- Northwest Product Stewardship Council
- Pacific NW Pollution Prevention Resource Center (PPRC)
- WA Citizens for Resource Conservation (WCRC)

•STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County
- Interagency Resource for Achieving Cooperation (IRAC)
- King County Dept. of Natural Resources & Parks
- Public Health - Seattle and King County
- Snohomish County Solid Waste Management Division
- WA Department of Ecology

•ADVISORS

- WA State Board of Pharmacy
- WA State Dept. of Social and Health Services - Aging and Disability Services Administration

Pilot Project



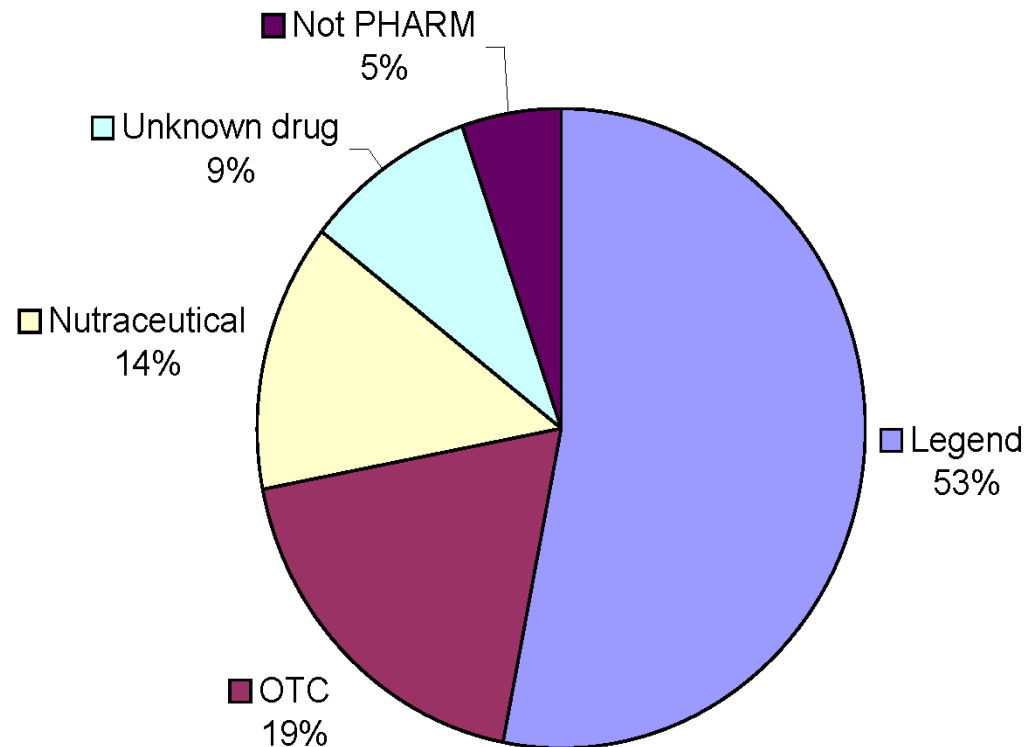
- 25 Group Health clinical pharmacies
- 12 Bartell Drugs stores
- 2 boarding homes
- 1,100 pounds disposed/month at GH alone
- Over 15,000 pounds safely disposed

Inventory Data

Group Health Sample

1,246 pounds

16,543 drug containers



Secure Medicine Return Bill

- Rep. Dawn Morrell, R.N.
- Producer Responsibility Bill
- Passed out of Environmental Health Committee
- Unanimous, bi-partisan vote
- Big bill, short session
- Set stage for success in '09



2008 Endorsers

Business

Bartell Drugs
Group Health
Washington Food Industry
WA State Pharmacy
Association

Civic & Environmental Organizations

Children's Alliance
Environment Washington
League of Women Voters of
WA
People for Puget Sound
Senior Citizens' Lobby
Sierra Club Cascade Chapter
WA Citizens for Resource
Conservation
WA Organic Recycling
Council
WashPIRG

Governments

Coalition for Clean Water
King County
Local Hazardous Waste Mgmt
Program in King County
Thurston County
WA Association of Sheriffs and Police
Chiefs
Yakima County

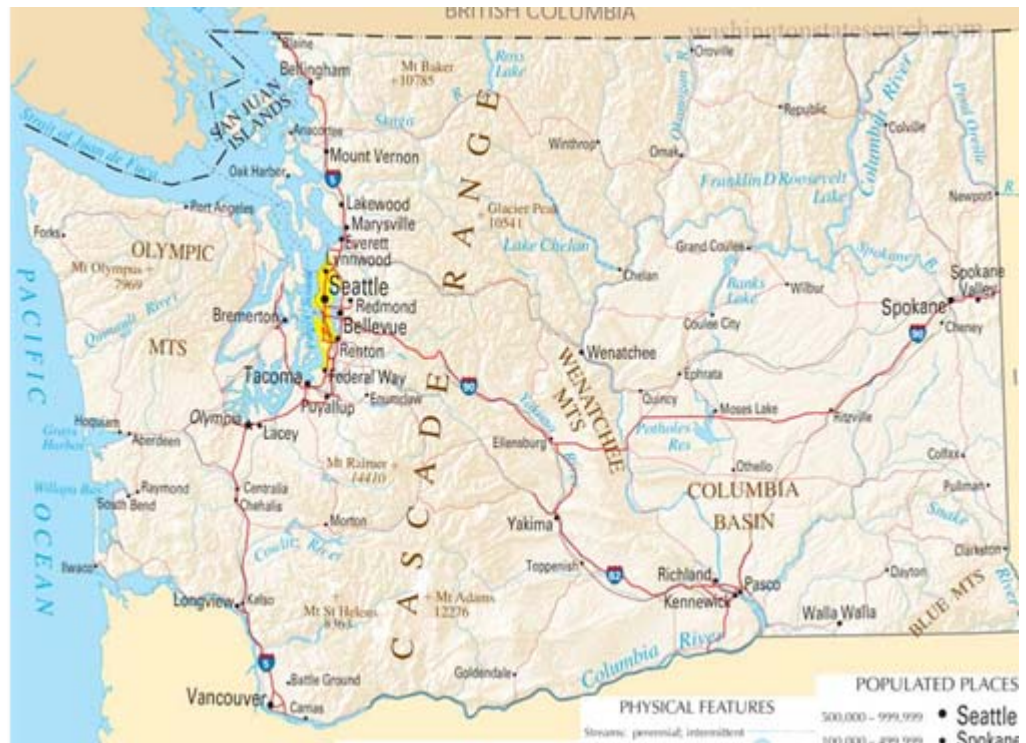
Health Organizations

Assoc of Advanced Practice
Psychiatric Nurses
Breast Cancer Fund
School Nurse Organization of WA
WA State Assoc of Occupational
Health Nurses
WA State Hospice and Palliative Care
Org.
WA State Nurses Assoc.

Policy:

Medicine Return Legislation

- In every county
- All cities with populations >10,000
- Covers all medicines
 - Over-the-counter
 - Prescription (including controlled substances)
- From
 - Households
 - Residential sources (hospice, nursing homes, schools, etc.)



Policy: Medicine Return Legislation

- No fee at time of sale or collection
- Producers include:
 - Brand name & generic drug manufacturers
 - Retailers for own house brands
- All producers must participate in a plan
 - Coordinate with other producers
(e.g. product stewardship organization)
 - Run independent program

Medicine Return Legislation: What does the program look like?

- Producers choose

- Mail back
- Pharmacy
- Hybrid
- Other????



- If pharmacy model

- Pharmacies participate voluntarily
- Expect many to do so



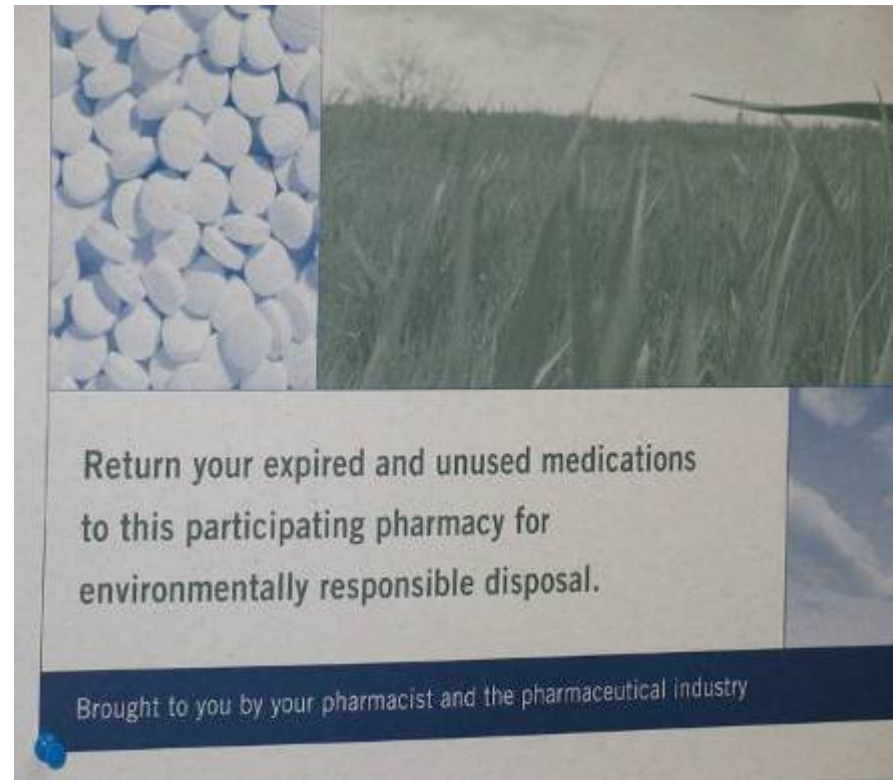
Medicine Return Legislation: Final Disposal

- Medicines disposed at hazardous waste facility
 - Federal law - some medicines designate
 - WA State law - most medicines designate
- Allows use of new technology if superior protection of human health and environment, and approved by Department of Ecology



Medicine Return Legislation: Outreach

- Producers
 - prepare outreach materials
 - inform the public
- Pharmacies
 - provide information to customers



Medicine Return Legislation: Shared Responsibility

- **Pharmaceutical brand owners** pay for program
- **Pharmacies** give out information and may provide take-back locations
- **Consumers** return their unwanted medications to participating pharmacies
- **Government** provides oversight and education (Board of Pharmacy)

For more information...



Unwanted Medicine Return Program

[HOME](#)
[RETURN YOUR MEDICINES](#)
[PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY](#)
[MEDICINE IN THE WATER](#)
[POISONING & ABUSE RISK](#)
[RESOURCES](#)
[SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS](#)
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RETURN HOUSEHOLD MEDICINE IN WASHINGTON STATE!

Protect your family.
Returning unwanted medications makes your home safer. Return unwanted medicines for free and safe disposal - [learn how!](#)

Protect our community.
Proper and safe disposal prevents theft and other misuse of medications. What to do if this program [isn't available](#) in your community.

Protect our environment.
Flushing or throwing away medications puts our waterways and aquatic life at risk. Learn more about [medicines in the water](#) or [producer responsibility](#).

- Learn more about how this [pilot program](#) works.
- Creating a long-term solution - learn about [producer responsibility](#).

What's New

[Progress Report of the Medicine Return Pilot](#) (April 2, 2008)

[Drugs in Water Hurt Fish and Wildlife](#) - AP Article (March 10, 2008)

Over 5,000 pounds collected and disposed so far! (Feb 1, 2008)